Valuations of Sequences: Searching for Exact Formulas

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Given a positive integer $a$ and a prime $p$, the $p$-adic valuation of $a$ is the highest power of $p$ dividing $a$. This talk considers the $p$-adic valuation of a given sequence. We are interested in explicit formulas describing them. For example, a classical formula of Legendre states that the $p$-adic valuation of the sequence of factorials is given in terms of the digits of $n$ when written in base $p$. Theorems, conjectures, trees and pictures will be discussed.

This is joint work with Tewodros Amdeberhan and also with several attendees at this conference. My thanks to all of them.

